

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: )  
Burkus et al. ) Before the Examiner:  
Serial No. New Application )  
Filed Herewith ) Group Art Unit Unknown  
METHODS AND INSTRUMENTATION FOR )  
VERTEBRAL INTERBODY FUSION ) July 31, 2003  
 ) Atty Docket No. 4002-3366/PC361.16

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

As a Preliminary Amendment to the above-identified Patent Application, please enter the following. The required application filing fees are enclosed herewith. Please charge any additional fees due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

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<u>Patricia E. Allegro</u> Signature of person mailing paper or fee			